



Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report For Staffordshire Country Estates

What is SWAP?

The Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), established under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, requires every state to:

- ? Inventory land uses within the recharge areas of all public water supply sources;
- ? Assess the susceptibility of drinking water sources to contamination from these land uses; and
- ? Publicize the results to provide support for improved protection.

SWAP and Water Quality

Susceptibility of a drinking water source does *not* imply poor water quality. Actual water quality is best reflected by the results of regular water tests.

Water suppliers protect drinking water by monitoring for more than 100 chemicals, treating water supplies, and using source protection measures to ensure that safe water is delivered to the tap.

Prepared by the
Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection,
Bureau of Resource Protection,
Drinking Water Program

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Table 1: Public Water System (PWS) Information

PWS NAME	Staffordshire Country Estates
PWS Address	501-507 Stafford Street
City/Town	Leicester, Massachusetts
PWS ID Number	2151009
Local Contact	Francis Butkewicz , Property Manager
Phone Number	(508) 892-1000

Well Name	Source ID#	Zone I (in feet)	IWPA (in feet)	Source Susceptibility
Well #1	2151009-01G	251	626	High
Well #2	2151009-02G	251	626	High
Well #3	2151009-03G	251	626	High

Introduction

We are all concerned about the quality of the water we drink. Drinking water wells may be threatened by many potential sources of contamination, including septic systems, road salting, and improper disposal of hazardous materials. Citizens and local officials can work together to better protect these drinking water sources.

Purpose of this report:

This report is a planning tool to support local and state efforts to improve water supply protection. By identifying land uses within water supply protection areas that may be potential sources of contamination the assessment helps focus protection efforts on appropriate best management practices (BMPs) and drinking water source protection measures. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff are available to provide information about funding and other resources that may be available to your community.

This report includes:

1. Description of the Water System
2. Discussion of Land Uses within Protection Areas
3. Recommendations for Protection
4. Attachments, including a Map of the Protection Areas

1. Description of the Water System

Well #1 is located adjacent to the pump house. It is an eight-inch diameter bedrock well that was drilled to a depth of 480 feet. Well #2 is located northwest of building #7. It is an eight-inch diameter bedrock well that was drilled to depth of 275 feet. Well #3 is located behind the plaza. It is a six-inch diameter bedrock well that was drilled to a depth of 275 feet. Each well has a Zone I of 251 feet and an Interim Wellhead Protection Area (IWPA) of 626 feet. The IWPA provides an interim protection area for a water supply well when the actual recharge area has not been delineated. The actual recharge area to the well may be significantly larger or smaller than the IWPA. The wells are located in an aquifer with a high vulnerability to contamination due to the absence of hydrogeologic barriers that can prevent contaminant migration. Please refer to the attached map of the Zone I and IWPA.

What is a Protection Area?

A well's water supply protection area is the land around the well where protection activities should be focused. Each well has a Zone I protective radius and an Interim Wellhead Protection Area (IWPA).

- **The Zone I** is the area that should be owned or controlled by the water supplier and limited to water supply activities.
- **The IWPA** is the larger area that is likely to contribute water to the well.

In many instances the IWPA does not include the entire land area that could contribute water to the well. Therefore, the well may be susceptible to contamination from activities outside of the IWPA that are not identified in this report.

What is Susceptibility?

Susceptibility is a measure of a well's potential to become contaminated due to land uses and activities within the Zone I and Interim Wellhead Protection Area (IWPA).

The wells serving the facility have no treatment at this time. For current information on monitoring results and treatment and a copy of the most recent Consumer Confidence Report, please contact the Public Water System contact person listed above in Table 1. Drinking water monitoring reporting data is also available on the web via EPA's Envirofacts website at http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/sdwis/sdwis_query.html.

2. Discussion of Land Uses in the Protection Areas

There are a number of land uses and activities within the drinking water supply protection areas that are potential sources of contamination.

Key issues include:

1. **Inappropriate Activities in Zone Is;**
2. **Aboveground storage tank;**
3. **Autobody Shop; and**
4. **Septic systems.**

The overall ranking of susceptibility to contamination for the well is High, based on the presence of at least one high threat land use or activity in the IWPA, as seen in Table 2.

1. **Zone Is** – Currently, the wells do not meet DEP's restrictions, which only allow water supply related activities in Zone Is. The Zone Is contains buildings, roads, parking areas, and recreational activities. The public water supplier does not own and/or control all land encompassed by the Zone Is. Please note that systems not meeting DEP Zone I requirements must get DEP approval and address Zone I issues prior to increasing water use or modifying systems.

Recommendations:

- ✓ Remove all non-water supply activities from the Zone I to comply with DEP's Zone I requirements.
 - ✓ Do not use pesticides, fertilizers and salt within the Zone Is.
2. **Aboveground Storage Tank (AST)** – There are AST with heating oil in the basements of the private residences that lie within the IWPA of the water supply. If managed improperly, Aboveground Storage Tanks can be a potential source contamination due to leaks or spills of the chemicals they store.

Table 2: Table of Activities within the Water Supply Protection Areas

Potential Contaminant Sources	Zone I	IWPA	Threat	Comments
Parking lot, driveways & road	All wells	All wells	Moderate	Limit road salt usage and provide drainage away from wells
Fuel Storage Above Ground	Well #3	Well #2 & #3	Moderate	Tanks are in the private residents, on impervious surface
Autobody shop	No	Well #2 & #3	High	Paints & solvents use
Septic System	No	Well #2 & #3	Moderate	See septic systems brochure in the appendix
Structures	All Wells	All Wells	-	Non-water supply structures in Zone I

* -For more information on Contaminants of Concern associated with individual facility types and land uses please see the SWAP Draft Land Use / Associated Contaminants Matrix on DEP's website - www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/.

Glossary

Zone I: The area closest to a well; a 100 to 400 foot radius proportional to the well's pumping rate. To determine your Zone I radius, refer to the attached map.

IWPA: A 400 foot to ½ mile radius around a public water supply well proportional to its pumping rate; the area DEP recommends for protection in the absence of a defined Zone I I. To determine IWPA radius, refer to the attached map.

Zone II: The primary recharge area defined by a hydrogeologic study.

Aquifer: An underground water-bearing layer of permeable material that will yield water in a usable quantity to a well.

Hydrogeologic Barrier: An underground layer of impermeable material that resists penetration by water.

Recharge Area: The surface area that contributes water to a well.

Recommendations:

- ✓ The neighbors should be made aware of the location of the source of drinking water.
- ✓ Aboveground storage tanks in your IWPA should be located on an impermeable surface, and also contained in an area large enough to hold the complete liquid volume, should a spill occur.
- ✓ Upgrade all oil/hazardous material storage tanks to incorporate proper containment and safety practices. Any modifications to the AST must be accomplished in a manner consistent with Massachusetts's plumbing, building, and fire code requirements. Consult with the local fire department for any additional local code requirements regarding ASTs.

3. **Autobody shop** — Chemicals such as paints and thinners are used in the nearby auto body shop. Water from the auto repair shop flows into a floor drain located in the shop.

Recommendations:

- ✓ The owner of the autobody shop should be made aware of the location of the source of drinking water.
- ✓ Work with the autobody shop to ensure that Best Management Practices are used for the storage, use, and disposal of all paints and solvents.
- ✓ Contact the UIC coordinator for the Central Region Office of the Department for additional technical assistance (Kurt Jacobson Tele. # 508.767.2731).

4. **Septic system** – Septic systems for residential homes lie within the IWPA of the water supply. A neighbor's septic system and the septic system for the condominium building are located within the IWPA. If a septic system fails or is not properly maintained it could be a potential source of microbial contamination. Improper disposal of household hazardous chemicals to septic systems is a potential source of contamination to the water supply.

Recommendations:

- ✓ The neighbors should be made aware of the location of the source of drinking water.
- ✓ The residents should be instructed to participate with the Town of Leicester in its household hazardous waste collection to discard of spent chemicals.
- ✓ Septic system components should be located, inspected, and maintained on a regular basis. Refer to the attachments for more information regarding septic systems.

Implementing the following recommendations will reduce the system's susceptibility to contamination.

3. Protection Recommendations

Implementing protection measures and best management practices (BMPs) will reduce the wells' susceptibility to contamination. Staffordshire County Estates should review and adopt the key recommendations above and the following:

Zone I:

- ✓ Consider well relocation if Zone I threats cannot be mitigated.
- ✓ Prohibit public access to the well and pumphouse by locking facilities and gating roads.
- ✓ Use BMPs and restrict activities that could pose a threat to the water supply, since structures are located within the Zone I.
- ✓ If it's not feasible to purchase privately owned land within the Zone I at this time, consider a conservation restriction that would prohibit potentially threatening activities or a

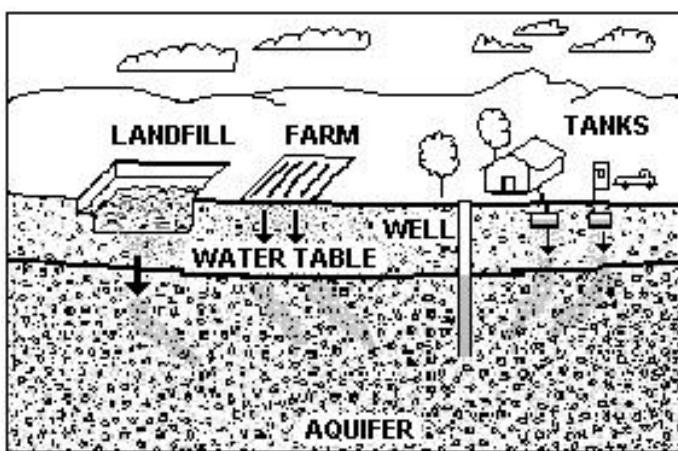


Figure 1: Example of how a well could become contaminated by different land uses and activities.

For More Information:

Contact Josephine Yemoh-Ndi in DEP's Worcester Office at (508) 792-7650 x 4030 for more information and for assistance in improving current protection measures.

More information relating to drinking water and source protection is available on the Drinking Water Program web site at www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/

Additional Documents:

To help with source protection efforts, more information is available by request or online at www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws/, including:

1. Water Supply Protection Guidance Materials such as model regulations, Best Management Practice information, and general water supply protection information.
2. MA DEP SWAP Strategy
3. Land Use Pollution Potential Matrix
4. Draft Land/Associated Contaminants Matrix

Copies of this assessment have been provided to the public water supplier and town boards.

right of first refusal to purchase the property.

- ✓ Do not use pesticides, fertilizers or road salt within the Zone I.

Training and Education:

- ✓ Train staff on proper hazardous material use, disposal, emergency response, and best management practices; include custodial staff, groundskeepers, and certified operator
- ✓ Work with your community to ensure that stormwater runoff is directed away from the well and is treated according to DEP guidance.

Facilities Management:

- ✓ Implement standard operating procedures regarding proper storage, use and disposal of hazardous materials. To learn more, see the hazardous materials guidance manual at www.state.ma.us/dep/bwp/dhm/dhmpubs.htm.
- ✓ Eliminate non-sanitary wastewater discharges to on-site septic systems. Instead, in areas using hazardous materials, discharge drains to a tight tank or sanitary sewer.

Planning:

- ✓ Work with local officials in Leicester to include the facility IWPA in Aquifer Protection District Bylaws and to assist you in improving protection.
- ✓ Have a plan to address short-term water shortages and long-term water demands. Keep the phone number of a bottled water company readily available.
- ✓ Supplement the SWAP assessment with additional local information and incorporate it into water supply educational efforts. Use a land use inventory to assist in setting priorities, focusing inspections, and creating educational activities.

Funding:

The Department's Wellhead Protection Grant Program provides funds to assist public water suppliers in addressing Wellhead protection through local projects. Protection recommendations discussed in this document may be eligible for funding under the "Wellhead Protection Grant Program". For additional information, please refer to the attached program fact sheet. Please note: each program year the Department posts a new Request for Response for the Grant program (RFR). Other funding opportunities are described in "Grant and Loan Programs: Opportunities for Watershed Protection, Planning and Implementation" at <http://www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/mf/files/glprgm.pdf>.

These recommendations are only part of your ongoing local drinking water source protection. Citizens and community officials should use this SWAP report to spur discussion of local drinking water protection measures.

4. Attachments

- Map of the Public Water Supply (PWS) Protection Area.
- Recommended Source Protection Measures Factsheet
- Your Septic System Brochure
- Pesticide Use Factsheet
- Wellhead Protection Grant Program Fact Sheet